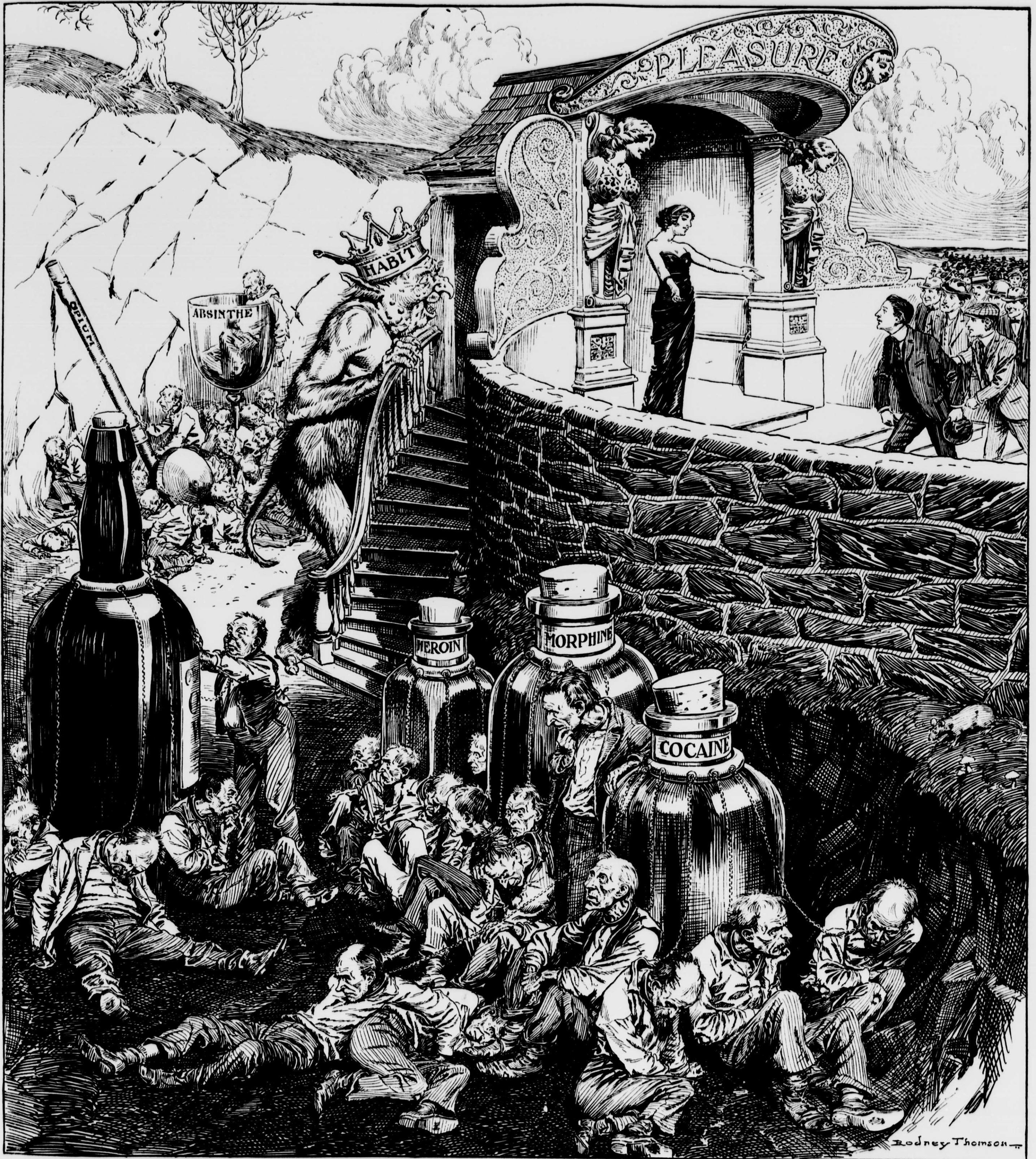


HABIT - - - Drawn by Rodney Thomson



Experiences of New Yorkers Hunting Big Game and Taking Moving Pictures in Alaska

HARRY MORGAN of New York has returned to civilization from the wilds of Alaska, where he went last July to hunt. Morgan Belmont and Charles Iselin, the other two members of his party, remained behind, and it was their purpose not to start for home for a month or so. Business brought Mr. Morgan back before his associates.

The three men left New York last July. At Fairbanks they were taken in charge by Harry Karstens, the famous Mount McKinley guide, who piloted Archdeacon Stuck to the summit of the highest mountain in North America two years ago. With a full

equipment of hunting and trapping supplies the party left Fairbanks on August 10 last in a little gasoline launch.

They ascended the Toklat River as far as possible. Karstens and an Indian made one trip to Nenana on Sept. 25 to get a moving picture machine which the party had had sent from New York. That was the only trip that any of the party made to civilization from the time they left Fairbanks until Mr. Morgan in company with Karstens reached Fairbanks on January 9 on his way home.

With the moving picture machine the party got thousands of feet of pictures of wild animals in their

Alaskan haunts and took many feet of scenic views thousands of feet up Mount McKinley. Bear, moose, caribou, mountain sheep and lots of small game, such as mink, marten, foxes, rabbits and the like, together with innumerable birds, fell before the guns of the party. Mr. Morgan and Karstens brought with them to Fairbanks a sled drawn by nine big dogs and loaded with horns, heads and skins of animals, and they left as much more at the camp on the Toklat.

One set of moose horns measured five feet nine inches across and much trouble was experienced in cutting a trail to permit its passage through the woods, the average Alaskan trail being but three and one-half feet wide. Charles Iselin killed a grizzly that

measured eight feet nine inches from tip to tip.

Once when they were taking moving pictures of mountain sheep on Mount McKinley they got within forty paces of three rams. There they remained for some time. The game appeared to be fascinated by the sight of the machine and paid little attention to the men, who smoked and chatted with each other, wondering how long their wild animal friends would remain. They also secured splendid pictures of three foxes at play, and some thrilling bear pictures. Mr. Morgan brought the films with him for development and the general public will probably have a chance to see them in the near future.

The three young men learned how to skin and cure animals and how to

care for the heads. They spent many days without any roof but the sky over them and were forced to cook their own meals often over the embers of their camp fires. When he and Karstens reached Fairbanks, Mr. Morgan was "mushing the malamutes" or, in other words, driving the dog team. He was bronzed and wore a crop of whiskers that were prize winners. He wore no covering on his head save a narrow strip of woollen cloth across his forehead and ears; although it was 20 below zero when he reached Fairbanks.

Although the party expected to start for New York about December 1, the hunting was so good that they decided to stay as long as possible in the wilderness. Morgan Belmont and Charles Iselin were busy watching a set of trap lines they had set out

when their companion left for New York. They kept the moving picture machine, expecting to get some more pictures of wild animals.

The party practically circled the base of Mount McKinley. They hunted and fished in a dozen streams which have their source in the glaciated sides of the mountain, and made countless trips in all directions from their established camp on the middle fork of the Toklat River. There was not an accident of any kind or a day's illness to spoil the pleasure of the trip.

"It's a large country," said Mr. Morgan, "much larger than I ever realized. This trip beat the stereotyped trip around the world that so many of the college boys take after completing their university work. We are highly satisfied with our experience and none of the boys would have missed it for

anything. It was great sport and good for us in every way. My one regret was that I had to come east alone."

Harry Karstens returned for the other members of the party, taking with him extra dogs to be used in hauling out the trophies of the hunt. These will be taken to New York by Messrs. Belmont and Iselin.

Mr. Morgan left Fairbanks on January 16. He travelled by a four horse stage 310 miles to Chitina, where he caught a train on the Copper River & Northwestern Railroad for Cordova. There he took a boat for Seattle. The trip to Cordova from Fairbanks took thirteen days. For ten days on the stage he travelled by day and spent the night in the big log roadhouses that are found every twenty miles along the Government trail through the Alaskan wilderness.